Today's News - April 21, 2006

New urbanism and Duany on the fringe of Toronto and Gentilly, New Orleans. -- Architecture "junkie" Pitt launching his own design competition for New Orleans in May; sign up with co-sponsor Global Green. -- Planning needs to be a priority for L.A. -- A campus landmark rates LEED Silver. -- An architectural spat between traditionalists and futurist. -- Security expert wants Ground Zero memorial designers to go back to the drawing board (again?!?). -- Chinese architecture is a "laboratory of urban change." -- Joshua Tree, CA, becoming a "do-it-yourself mini-utopia" for architects and artists. -- RAIA Award winners are a "testimony to the vitality of architecture in Queensland." -- Weekend diversions: On view: Gandy on view in New York. -- International Arts and Crafts movement in San Francisco. -- Two masters of woodwork and lighting paired in Seoul. -- In print: "The Architecture of Happiness." -- An instructive tome about contemporary architecture in Dublin (despite errors). -- A new field guide to Frank Lloyd Wright.

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New Urbanism takes root at the fringe: As development pushes farther east, the design ideals of architect Andres Duany are shaping communities such as New Amherst and Port Hope -- Duany Plater-Zyberk (DPZ); Phillip H. Carter- Globe and Mail (Canada)

A New Look at Gentilly: Famed urban planner is helping residents design their future: Andres Duany and a bevy of associates were pleased to be invited in by the Gentilly Civic Improvement Association, a key player in a grass-roots New Orleans planning movement.- The Times-Picayune (New Orleans)

Brad Pitt Sponsors New Orleans Design Project: ...teaming up on the project with Global Green USA...said he has always been interested in architecture. "I am a bit of a junkie..." (AP)- Forbes

Brad Pitt and Global Green USA announce the Sustainable Design Competition for New Orleans Neighborhoods: Honorary National Task Force: Julian Bond, Gen. Wesley Clark, Leonardo DiCaprio, Morgan Freeman, Lee Hamilton, Pat Mitchell, David Orr [sign up for notification of of competition brief posting mid-May]- Global Green USA

"Planning Must Emerge As A City Priority": As Los Angeles gets used to prospect of a more dense urban future, L.A. architects Brenda Levin and Bill Fain offer insight to L.A.'s new generation of city government officials.- The Planning Report

84-year-old Skenandoa House Goes Green: Receives Silver LEED Certification from U.S. Green Building Council...oldest building in New York State to be so designated. -- EwingCole- Hamilton College

Am not! Are so!: Architects scrap over [University of Virginia] South Lawn project: ...triggered a war of words and theory between architecture's conservatives and liberals-- or, as...Robert Campbell dubs them, traditionalists and futurists. -- Polshek Partnership; Moore Rubel Yudell- The Hook (Virginia)

Security Concerns Raised About Memorial at Ground Zero: senior adviser for counterterrorism...has called on the architects to consider revising several critical aspects.- New York Times

Chinese architecture victim of misconceptions: China becoming laboratory of urban change in the world...says Adrian Blackwell of the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design.- University of Toronto

Art Blooms in the California Desert: The artists and architects who are colonizing Joshua Tree seem more interested in creating do-it-yourself mini-utopias. -- Taalman Koch Architecture; Ecoshack [images]- New York Times

Boom fuels inspiration: Royal Australian Institute of Architects awards...140 buildings entered in this year's awards were testimony to the vitality of architecture in Queensland. -- Lawrence Toaldo/Lawrence Toaldo; James Russell; Shane Plazibat; Shane Thompson/Bligh Voller Nield [slide show]- The Courier-Mail (Australia)

An Architect of the Sepulchral Rises to the Surface: Perhaps only an architect plagued with bad luck his entire professional life would develop a passion for designing tombs...on view through July 22...in Manhattan. -- Joseph Gandy- New York Times

Not just a nice collection of furniture -- de Young show exposes depth of Arts and Crafts aesthetic...restoring the movement's historical and political dimensions - "International Arts and Crafts: William Morris to Frank Lloyd Wright" -- C.F.A. Voysey; Josef Hoffmann; Kolo Moser- San Francisco Chronicle

Eastern woodwork meets Western lighting: Two of the greatest contemporary artisans have come together in Seoul, as the delicate Eastern style woodcrafts of George Nakashima (1905-1990) and splendid Western lighting fixtures of Serge Mouille (1922-1988) are being exhibited side by side...through May 18 [image]- Korea Herald

In his new book "The Architecture of Happiness" Alain de Botton argues that human characteristics can be found everywhere in the inanimate world of objects [images]- Telegraph (UK)

Dublin's 'crisp, serene' public buildings: Christine Casey's observations on contemporary architecture in Dublin are instructive but her book is marred by errors. By Frank McDonald- Irish Times

Book review: How to view a Wright house: "Frank Lloyd Wright Field Guide" by Thomas Heinz. By Kevin Nance- Chicago Sun-Times

Legorreta + Legorreta: Sheraton Abandoibarra Hotel, Bilbao, Spain

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